# METROPOLITAN

## Lifting of emergency a must to implement electoral roadmap

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Election Commission (EC) should complete its work for delimiting the parliamentary constituencies by June so that the next general election could be held by Bangladesh Chairman Prof. December, said the speakers at a roundtable yesterday.

They said emergency would roadmap. have to be lifted to implement the roadmap as announced by the EC. The roundtable titled 'The EC-

announced roadmap: Its implementation' was organised by Shujan, a civil society initiative to promote good governance, at the National Press Club in the city.

Transparency International Muzaffer Ahmad said EC should

"It is very important to delimit election by December. the parliamentary constituencies and prepare correct voter list. But

TIB Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad speaks at a roundtable at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. On his

right are columnist Syed Abul Maksud and Shujan General Secretary Badiul Alam Majumder and on his left are for-

since December 4 of last year.

Khulna Power Company

Limited (KPCL) is now the lone

plant supplying only 90 megawatt

Faridpur, which are under the west

zone power distribution company

It was the highest loadshedding

Twenty-one districts of Khulna

mer adviser ASM Shahjahan and former adviser M Hafiz Uddin Khan

Goalpara power plant

goes out of order again

This is the 13th incident of and Barisal divisions and greater

Out of five power plants at limited, had a loadshedding of 194

The 60-megawatt power plant in last one year which may con-

has been inoperative since July 5 of tinue if the 110-MW power plant

2006, Barge-Mounted Power Plant- does not go into operation by

1 since August 27 of 2007, and Thursday or Friday, said Chief

Goalpara Power Station at megawatt during the peak hour at

13th incident of technical fault at

the plant in last 10 months

out of order on Sunday night due to of electricity a day.

Khalishpur in Khulna city, four are 7:30pm of Monday.

The 110-megawatt power plant at

Goalpara Power Station again went

technical fault at the plant in last 10

major technical fault.

now out of order.

the general election will have to be held by December because there is confusion among people over the election," he added.

Shujan General Secretary Badiul Alam Majumder said it is a right decision to delimit the constituencies, but EC should be more give more attention to its election aware about its roadmap and move forward to hold the next general

> M Hafiz Uddin Khan, adviser to a former caretaker government,

said EC should be more serious so that it can hold the general election according to its roadmap.

Other participants said only political leaders will have to run the country, otherwise democracy will not be established.

ASM Shahjahan, Haider Akbar Khan Rano, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Dr Abdur Razzak, GM Kader and Columnist Syed Abul Maksud also spoke on the

#### BISHWA IJTEMA Fire at foreign guests' camp

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One of the three camps for foreign guests at Bishwa Ijtema ground in Tongi was gutted by a fire creating panic among the devotees yesterday.

Witnesses said the fire broke out at about 11:45am.

Three units of Fire Services and Civil Defence fought for about half an hour to extinguish the blaze.

The fire originated from short circuit during electric wiring.

Soon after the fire, members of law enforcement agencies rushed to the spot and kept the situation under control. Tongi police said no casualty

was reported. The Ijtema is scheduled to begin

on January 25.

#### Acid violence against housewife protested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Bangladesh Society for The Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) yesterday condemned the acid violence against a housewife by her husband at Mirpur in the city.

The news was published on the January 22 issue of the daily Manabjamin, says a BSEHR press

Acting Secretary General of BSEHR Nurul Islam and Executive Director Advocate Alena Khan in a statement also demanded proper investigation into the incident and punishment to the persons respon-

The release said one Zakir Hossain of Mirpur married Ruma Akhter seven months ago and he had been pressing her for dowry since their marriage.

However, when Ruma divorced Zakir recently, he threw acid on her to take revenge.

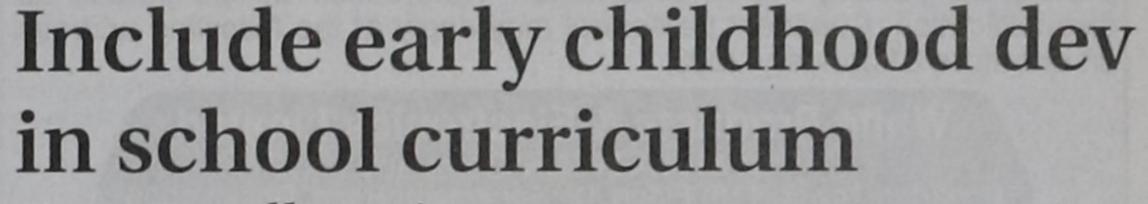
#### UODA Pharmacy Week 2008

The University of Development Alternative (UODA) is organising a seven-day Pharmacy Week 2008 that began on Saturday, says a press release.

UODA President Mujib Khan and Managing Director of Unihealth and Unimade Masaddek Hossain inaugurated the Week.

The programmes organised to mark the Week feature scientific exhibition, cultural function, seminar, debate competition, publication of memoir and sports

The festival will conclude on January 25.



Experts tell seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

cerned have turned a blind eye. The picture was taken yesterday.

Initiate new

better future'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Speakers at a seminar yesterday

called for initiating a new trend in

politics for a better future of the

for pursuing politics against politi-

They also emphasised the need

The seminar titled 'Political

criminalisation in Bangladesh

perspective' was organised by the

Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB)

on the occasion of the first anniver-

sary of the present caretaker gov-

Rajshahi University (RU) Vice-

chancellor Prof Altaf Hossain

attended the seminar as chief guest

while RU political science teacher

Dr Tarek M Tawfikur Rahman

in Kushtia Prof M Rafiqul Islam,

former Rajshahi mayor Abdul

Hadi, RU economics teacher Dr

KBM Mahbubur Rahman, social

science dean M Sadekul Islam,

Bangladesh Medical Association's

Rajshahi unit President Dr Wasim

Hossain, journalists Mostafizur

Rahman Khan, Hasan Millat, Nazib

Wadud and Anisuzzaman spoke on

PIB Director General

The speakers said there is no

alternative to an elected govern-

ment to ensure democracy and

people's purchasing power in view

of the price spirals of essentials.

They also called for raising

accountability of politicians.

Mohammad Nazrul Islam chaired

the occasion.

the programme.

Former VC of Islamic University

ernment at RCCI auditorium.

presented the keynote paper.

trend in

country.

cal criminalisation.

politics for

Experts at a seminar yesterday suggested incorporating the topic of early childhood development into high school textbooks and training the primary school teachers on this issue.

As the development in early childhood has a great impact on a person's future life and activities, it is important to properly take care of children in order to ensure their proper mental and physical growth, they said, adding that every school should have an educational psychologist for this purpose.

Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF) organised the seminar on 'Early Childhood Development (ECD)' at Biam auditorium in association with the Terre des Hommes (TdH) Netherlands, stressing the need to raise awareness among parents about the issue.

Presenting the keynote paper, Shahin Islam of Save the Children-USA said early childhood development is the complete physical and mental development of a child from its embryo to eight-year-old.

"The development takes place in five fields -- physical, intellectual, social and emotional development progress," he said, adding that the style of growth varies from child to child. But if the parents find development of their child delays, they should be taken to medical profes- in aid of the victims of natural prices of essentials.

Open garbage trucks ply the streets in the port city at daytime, posing environmental hazards to the commuters and passers-by, but the authorities con-

"The more we interact with the child, the more connectivity of its brain cells takes place, which is important for the child's intellectual growth. So, it is important to continue stimulating activities with the child," he said.

Prof Shamim F Karim of the department of psychology, Dhaka University, said, "It is very unfortunate that still there are schools where TdH-Netherlands was present as the the tiny students are beaten by their special guest.

teachers. But actually it is quite impossible to engage the children in specific work by scolding or threatening. Rather, positive reinforcement is more effective."

Wahida Banu, chairperson of BSAF, moderated the seminar while Secretary for the ministry of Health and Family Welfare Zafar Ullah Khan was present as the chief guest and Mahmudul Kabir, country director,

### Keep essentials' prices at tolerable level

President asks businesspeople

UNB, Dhaka

to keep the market prices of

essentials at tolerable level. "Keep the prices of essential commodities at tolerable level," he

told a delegation of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and language proficiency and moral | Industry (DCCI), led by its presi-ness community, they said. dent Hossain Khaled, who called on him at Bangabhaban.

The President called upon the mendation, including taking up an business leaders to come forward integrated plan for reducing the

The DCCI leaders's aid the gov-President Iajuddin Ahmed yester- ernment should monitor the marday urged the business community ket instead of resorting to any intervention in order to control the increasing prices of essentials.

> While monitoring the market, the government should not attempt any step that might further erode the confidence of the busi-

The DCCI leaders submitted to the President a 10-point recom-



Eminent scholar Sardar Fazlul Karim receives a crest at a reception ceremony organised by Unitrend Ltd in his honour at the Spectra Convention Centre in the city recently.

#### Star Campus-Drishty debate final today

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The final competition and prize giving ceremony of the debate competition titled 'Star Campus-Drishty Debate for Generation Next' will be held at Mastermind School today.

Poet Abul Momen, resident editor of the daily Prothom Alo will attend the ceremony as the chiefguest. Drishty, a cultural organisation,

is organising the competition in cooperation with The Daily Star. Radio Foorti is the radio partner of the competition.

#### Reception to Sardar Fazlul Karim

Unitrend Ltd has accorded a reception to eminent scholar Sardar Fazlul Karim recently to honour him for his versatile works and colorful life, says a press release.

Sardar Fazlul Karim was not only a writer and philosopher but also a teacher. He has continued to pursue his writing for the benefit of the nation and its people. His works, encompassing the translations of Plato, Rousseau and Aristotle, will remain in the minds of readers for generations to come. Chairman and Creative chief of

Unitrend Ltd. Munir Ahmed Khan and Managing Director and CEO Zulfiqar Ahmed spoke on the occasion while writer Masiul Alam elaborated on the life of Sardar Fazlul Karim. Later, the eminent scholar was

honoured with a crest and a cheque for Tk 50,000.

A large number of celebrated personalities and local business dignitaries attended the programme at the Spectra Convention Centre on January 17.

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#### Murder of 3-yr girl in Ctg condemned

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

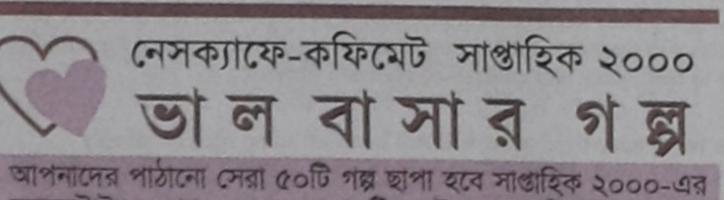
Karmojibi Nari (KN) strongly condemned the murder of a threeyears old girl in Cox's Bazar and demanded immediate arrest as well as exemplary punishment of the culprit, says a press release.

President of KN Shirin Akhtar and General Secretary Sharmin Kabir, in a joint statement yesterday, expressed their concern over the murder of three-year old Priaymni of Tutiakhali village under Chokoria upazila in Cox's

Giashuddin, son of Mohammad Ali, of Tutiakhali village of the upazila allegedly murdered her to hide his misdeed, as he is responsible for her birth.



President of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh Prof Emajuddin Ahmed inaugurates the 'Nimtoli Gate' in the city yesterday, marking 400 years of Dhaka city.



ভ্যালেন্টাইন সংখ্যায়। সবসেরা গল্পটির নাট্যরূপ প্রচারিত হবে বাংলাভিশনে। সেরা ২০ গল্পকার পাবেন NESCAFÉ -এর আকর্ষণীয় পুরস্কার। লেখা পাঠান ২৭ জানুয়ারির মধ্যে। गयभीमा १००। शब्र निथ्न २०००

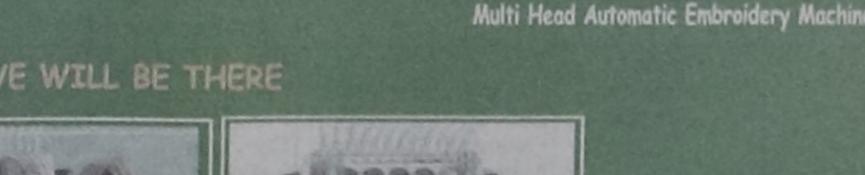


বিদশার আত্মজাবনা শত্রুর সঙ্গে বসবাস' প্রথম পর্ব রাজনীতির অন্দরমহলের অবাক করা কিছু অধ্যায়

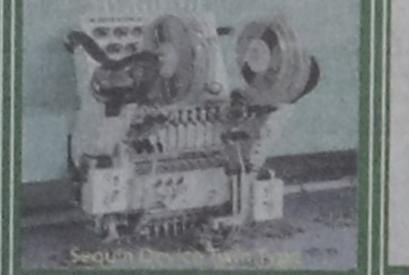
धवन वाजात

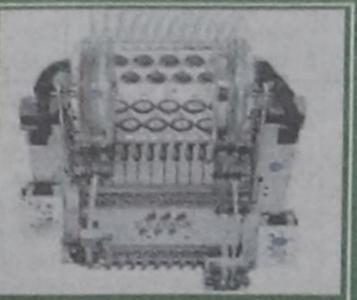
Multi Head Automatic Embroidery Machine











We Cordially Invite at the Buying Houses, Garment Industries and Embroidery users to come and see the TAJIMA latest Innovation of multi colour twin type sequin, first time in our country at DTG - (The 5th Dhaka International Textile and Garments Machinery Exhibition - 2008)

> Vanue : BANGLADESH - CHINA FRIENDSHIP CONFERENCE CENTER (BCFCE) DHAKA, BANGLADESH Date : 21 22 23 24 January 08, Time - 12.00 pm - 20.00 pm